
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 134
Author: Grove (R), et al.
Introduced: 4/8/24
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Child Abuse Prevention Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolutions acknowledges April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and encourages Californians to work together to support youth-serving child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Children who have been abused or neglected have a higher risk of developing various health problems as adults, including alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, eating disorders, obesity, suicide, and certain chronic diseases. California's children deserve to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment, free from fear, abuse, and neglect.
- 2) Effective programs succeed because of partnerships among human service agencies, community-based organizations, schools, faith-based organizations, law enforcement, and the business community.
- 3) Child abuse and neglect have long-term economic and societal costs. Maltreated children are 77 percent more likely to require special education than children who are not maltreated and are 59 percent more likely to be arrested as juveniles than their peers who are not maltreated.
- 4) Long-term health care costs for adult survivors of childhood physical and sexual abuse are 21 percent higher than for nonvictims. Adolescent survivors of child maltreatment are twice as likely to be unemployed as adults and are more likely to receive public assistance than their peers who were not maltreated.

- 5) Victims of child abuse, whether the abuse is physical, sexual, or emotional, or a combination of these, should have access to a safe place to live, appropriate medical care, and counseling or mental health services.
- 6) In recent years, Prevent Child Abuse America, the Child Abuse Prevention Center, the California Family Resource Association, and other groups have organized campaigns to increase public awareness of child abuse and to promote ways to prevent child abuse.
- 7) Pinwheels are displayed to increase the awareness of child abuse and to focus on the positive message of preventing child abuse and neglect by supporting families and strengthening communities during Child Abuse Prevention Month.

This resolution acknowledges April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and encourages Californians to work together to support youth-serving child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 34 (Ashby, Resolution Chapter 53, Statutes of 2023) acknowledged April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

ACR 166 (Calderon, Resolution Chapter 66, Statutes of 2022) acknowledged April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

ACR 66 (Cooley, Resolution Chapter 40, Statutes of 2021) acknowledged April 2021 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/15/24)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/15/24)

None received

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